



Vol. 52

October 2002

No. 10

Club Elections & JOTA This Month

This table shows the current members, and who's in their 1st and 2nd year of their 2-year terms. At the October meeting we'll elect all officer positions (1-year terms), and four director positions (2-year terms). Those elected to officer positions serve as directors, and their officer and director terms run concurrently. The board has assembled a slate of nominees (see the board minutes), and nominations from the floor will also be accepted.

Oct 2000	Oct 2001	Oct 2002	Oct 2003
NKØP(T)	→(T)	?	→
NØNTX	→	?	→
ADØA	→	?	→
NØMIK(S)	→(S)	?	→
K4ARM(P)	KBØB	→	
KB2BZY	KD6FLM	→	
KØSU(V)	KØSU(P)	→(PP)	
N7LV(Z)	KCØEGJ(VP)	→	
WV7T(PP)	N7LV(Z)	N7LV(Z)	
	K4ARM(PP)		

(P)=President (V)=Vice pres (S)=Secretary (T)=Treasurer (Z)=Ø-Beat Ed (PP)=Past Pres

The local Scouts are again kicking off this year's Jamboree-On-The-Air (JOTA) this month. Dan Scott KBØPPM is coordinating the ham radio activities for the local troops this year (again!) Thanks, Dan! Saturday and Sunday, Oct 19 & 20, are the official JOTA dates this year. Note that JOTA is always the third full weekend in October of each year. JOTA is a combined venture between the Boy and Girl Scouts aimed at providing a way for more young kids to get exposed to amateur radio by getting on the air and talking to other Scouts around the world. Plus, as we do locally, JOTA also exposes Scouts to many other aspects of amateur radio, and communications or science in general. This has become one of the largest Scout activities ever, and gets about 400,000 kids nationwide on the air for this event!



Locally, Dan has arranged for two operating locations, in conjunction with an Edge of Space Sciences (EOSS) balloon launch. They are (1) at Meadow Lake Airport, roughly at Hwy 24 & Judge Orr Rd, with activities beginning at 0800 and a balloon launch at 0900, and (2) the Pauline Memorial Catholic School, behind the Broadmoor Hotel. From the second location they will monitor the balloon launch. Scouts will be preregistering for activities such as launch operations, flight path prediction, radio direction finding, tracking and recovery, and radio communications merit badge. So for the Scouts it should be an exciting time. For us, the hams, well, we should have a great time too, but we need to get in touch with Dan Scott to see exactly how we can help. If you can't attend, you may be able to monitor some of the traffic. Frequencies will be on the CRA repeaters (147.225 in DEN, 145.160 in COS). There will also be a crossband repeater as a payload, with input at 445.975, output at 147.555.

Specifically, Dan has planned some demonstrations and operating stations for satellite communications, HF SSB and possibly CW, Automated Position and Reporting System (APRS) stations, local communications via repeaters on VHF and UHF, amateur slowscan and fastscan television, and even PSK-31. So if you have the time and maybe even some equipment bring out and set up for one of the displays, please contact Dan. Dan has a lot going on, and needs our help again, as usual. Contact Dan at 635-0871, or via e-mail at dscott1644@yahoo.com. **There is a rain date of Oct 20 in case the 19th is not good.**

October Program: Our annual meeting, and the program is officer and director elections.

Meetings Our monthly meetings are normally held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7 pm at the Leon Young Service Center, 1521 Hancock Parkway, just north of the US 24 (Martin Luther King) Bypass. Our Annual meeting is in October. Check the web site for any changes.

Regular License Exam Sessions

Our ARRL VEC test sessions are on the 2nd Saturday of even numbered months at 0900 at the Denver Technical College, 3245 International Cr, across from Memorial Park. Contact Erik KGØXE for details. Examinees need to bring (1) \$10, preferably a check or money order payable to ARRL/VE; (2) picture ID; (3) the signed original and a copy of your current amateur radio license and CSCs you have (we keep the copies); and (4) a pen, pencil, and calculator if needed. Memory calculators will be checked.

PPRAA Web Page See it at <http://www.qsl.net/ppraa/>. Thanks to Lee Inman KØQED for maintaining these pages.

Get on the PPRAA E-mail

Reflector Stay on top of new or short-fused developments. Subscribe at <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/ppraanet>. Thanks to John Wishart KCØJFH for maintaining this list.

PPRAA Simplex Net All amateurs are invited to join us on Thursday evenings at 1900 on 146.58 MHz simplex for our club net. Get the latest club and regional happenings!

Officers and Directors

President	Rick Brown	KØSU	531-9423	k0su@arrl.net
Vice-President	Kate Muniz	KCØEGJ		
*Secretary	Mike Allen	NØMIK	594-4896	n0mik@arrl.net
*Treasurer	Ron Deutsch	NKØP	593-8352	nk0p@arrl.net
Board Member	Bob Wogaman	KBØB	531-0511	kb0b@worldnet.att.net
*Board Member	Jerry VerDuft	ADØA		verduftj@earthlink.net
*Board Member	Tom McDaniel	NØNTX	570-1465	n0ntx@amsat.org
Board Member	Aaron Pelouze	KD6FLM		
**Past President	Sid White	K4ARM		
Ø-Beat Editor	Rob Roller	N7LV	282-0204	n7lv@amsat.org

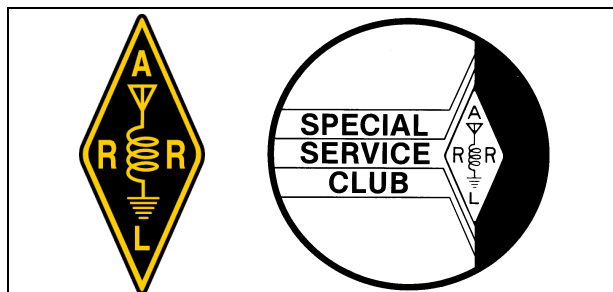
* Indicates this Director's two-year term ends next month ** Term ends next month

Committee Chairs & Other Contacts

Activity	VACANT			
Auditing	Kate Ellis	KCØEGJ		
Asset	Mike Stansberry	KØTER		
E-Mail Reflector	John Wishart	KCØJFH	481-2439	john.wishart@hp.com
Historian	VACANT			
Interference	Bill Petty	NØNJX	532-1439	
Membership	Les Borst	KCØNC	634-3995	
Programs	Rick Brown	KØSU	531-9423	k0su@arrl.net
Publicity	Roger Foust	KE6ZOT	538-8866	ke6zot@arrl.net
Public Service	Mike Stansberry	KØTER		
Hamfest	VACANT			
Technical Education	Linda Hedges	KBØRKW	683-7828	kb0rkw@juno.com
VE Testing	Erik Mugele	KGØXE		ve@teuton.org
Video Librarian	Rhoda Anderson	KB2BZY		wv7t@aol.com
Webmaster	Lee Inman	KØQED	495-9577	k0qed@arrl.net
AMSAT Coordinator	Tom McDaniel	NØNTX	570-1465	n0ntx@amsat.org
ARES EC	Wes Wilson	KØHBZ		
ARES Liaison	Mike Stansberry	KØTER		
ARRL Section Mgr	Jeff Ryan	KØRM	260-6826	k0rm@arrl.net
CCARC Liaison	Moe Pierce	WBØRTF		
RACES Officer	Tony Dal Lago	KC4VMB	575-8400	kc4vmb@arrl.net

Upcoming Club Programs

Oct.....	Officer and Board Elections
Nov.....	TBD



Articles for the Ø-Beat Deadline for articles or ads for the Nov issue is Oct 28. Submit articles by e-mail, US Mail, telephone or in person to the editor. Editor reserves right to edit for readability, grammar, spelling, punctuation and length.

Nonprofit Organization The PPRAA is a federal 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and welcomes all contributions. Your contributions/donations may be tax-deductible. **Ø-Beat Available Electronically** in PDF form via e-mail and on the web. Contact the editor for details.

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Club and Local News

President's Corner

By KØSU Rick Brown, President

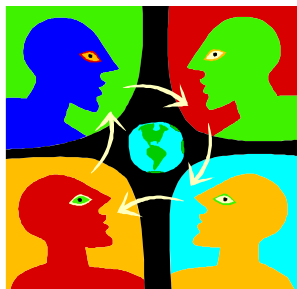
Since this is my last month as President of the PPRAA I would like to take a little space to thank the membership and the board members for your support. It is hard for me to believe a year has gone by with me in the position. It has been fun and hectic. Like any organization we have had some ups and downs. For the first time anyone can remember we did not participate in Field Day, Mother Nature kind of hindered us there and I think we made the right decision to not take part in the activity. The move to a new location has not been easy, but I am sure the club members will continue to be active in the club meetings at the new location and it will work well for us. On the other hand we had a great swapfest, picnic and many other activities. All in all I would say it was a positive year.

Of course with club elections coming this month it is your chance to become more active in the club and run for a position, either as a club officer or as a member of the board. This is a great opportunity.

In my opinion this is a fantastic club that has much to offer all Hams in the community. Please do what you can to bring in other members and help the club grow even larger. I feel honored to have been your president for the past year and hope I can continue to support the club in the coming years. *TNX & 73, Rick*

General Meeting Minutes

By NØMIK Mike Allen, Secretary



President Rick Brown KØSU called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Fifty-four members and guests signed the attendance book. After introductions, a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting was made and passed unanimously. Mike WV7T noted that a

correction to the Board of Directors meeting minutes should read that he was standing in for Aaron KD6FLM at the last Board meeting.

The Treasurer's report, given by Ron Deutsch NKØP, showed an income for August of \$20.00 and expenditures of \$80.00, leaving balances of \$ 3551.21 in the club's checking account and \$2609.22 in savings. \$347.14 remains in the account used for public service, training, etc., and must be spent by next swapfest. Cash from the picnic drawing was not reflected in Ron's report and was kept in the cash account for tonight's auction.

Committee reports began with Mike KØTER announcing he needs a board member to help him with the yearly inventory. Rick, the programs chairman, mentioned the elections to be held at the October meeting in lieu of a program. ARES EC Wes KØHBZ noted the end of the ARES public service event season and thanked all who came out to help with the 9/11 memorial service earlier today. Moe WBØRTF, our CCARC representative mentioned the next CCARC meeting to be held in Woodland Park, and that she would need a stand-in for that meeting. It was also noted that the next RACES meeting would be held next Thursday, the 19th at 7 PM at the El Paso OEM. Jerry, ADØA gave a run down on the convention planning to date. There will be an extensive technical forum, and both Riley Hollingsworth K4ZDH and ARRL president Jim Haynie W5JBP will be present. The banquet will cost \$30 and will include not only a fine dinner, but also an HF transceiver type door prize and a talk by Riley. Money collected for the banquet is being used to cover the cost of the food, door prize and Riley's expenses.

Announcements began with Mike KØTER stating he'd like to find someone to take over Field Day coordination for next year. Mike also noted that we might not be able to use the Agilent site we've had in the past, since he's now retired. Bob KBØB announced that he still had club shirts and jackets. Shirts are \$15.15, and jackets are \$31.00. Moe WBØRTF announced that the Lunch Bunch would be meeting Friday at the Country Buffet in the Citadel Crossing shopping center around 11:30 AM. Dick K2LCT announced the Tucson Amateur Packet Radio (TAPR) digital conference being held in Denver this weekend. Rick noted that the club has received some "boat anchor" type equipment as donations, and rather than donating it to a club or school, would look into selling the gear. The club will conduct a running auction and give club

members first chance at the gear. If it fails to sell there, the gear will probably be put up for sale on e-Bay. Ben NØLNW announced that the J-pole antennas ordered last month were in and ready for pick up by those who purchased them. Dan KBØPPM noted that Jamboree On the Air (JOTA) will be held the 3rd weekend in October. This year's event will have two stations similar to last year. One will be out at Meadow Lake airport for the EOSS launch and the other at Pauline School at St Paul's Church in the Broadmoor. Dan is looking for volunteers to help him this year as well as to begin planning for next year's JOTA. Mike WV7T stated the Freezoree would be held the at end of January on the grounds of the Air Force Academy. Mike needs help setting up keys and sounders for an old style CW station. Mike is also looking for anyone who would like to assist him in contesting and also noted he had many items for sale outside of the auction. Rick reminded everyone that elections will be held at the meeting next month, noting that the Secretary, Treasurer and President from this year will not be running for office, and encouraging everyone to think about running. Kate KCØEGJ announced she was getting married next week and that there would be a celebratory party at her home on the 28th. The Board of Directors meeting for September will be held at Bob KBØB's house next Monday evening at 7 PM. The Hammy was awarded to Ron NKØP.

After the break and door prize drawing, the annual auction was held. The auction ended and the meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM. *de Mike Allen NØMIK, Secretary*

Board Meeting Minutes

By NØMIK Mike Allen, Secretary

The October Board meeting will be held October 14 at the home of Aaron Pelouze KD6FLM.

September Board Meeting, September 16, 2002. President Rick Brown KØSU called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. He thanked Bob KBØB for hosting the meeting.



In attendance were Tom NØNTX, Jerry ADØA, Bob KBØB, Rick KØSU, Rob N7LV, Kate KCØEGJ. Mike WV7T (standing

in for Aaron KD6FLM), and Rhoda KB2BZY were also in attendance. Absent were Mike NØMIK, Sid K4ARM, and Ron NKØP. Rick stated that the main agenda item was the slate of officers, as elections will be October 9th at our next General Membership Meeting. The Slate of Officers is solely people who have indicated they would accept the position if elected. Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the October meeting. After discussion, the slate of officers is as follows:

President:	<i>No candidate so far...</i>
Vice president:	Tom McDaniels, NØNTX
Treasurer:	Bob Wogaman, KBØB
Secretary:	Joanie Verduft, KCØGMI
Directors:	Jerry Verduft, ADØA
	Mike Anderson, WV7T
	Rhoda Anderson, KB2BZY

Immediate Past President Rick Brown KØSU will serve as a director as he has one year left on his tenure on the board. Rick will discuss the possibility of Aaron Pelouze KD6FLM running for President, and if Aaron isn't interested/available, Kate Ellis KCØEGJ has offered to fill that position IF no one shows interest from the GM meeting.

Dan Scott KBØPPM gave Rick three ideas for the club. 1) A committee on Youth Education, with JOTA, the school clubs and ham classes in that committee's focus. 2) Contest Committee with reports on special events and contests for the *Ø-Beat*. (Mike Anderson WV7T volunteered to work on that.) 3) A promotion of other Pikes Peak Radio organizations, whether formal or informal, such as the DX clubs, contest clubs, repeater groups. Rob Roller N7LV stated that the Bylaws needed reviewing again (per the bylaws), and suggested a change to the way the Family membership is stated. After discussion, it was decided there wasn't a need to change it at this time.

Jerry ADØA spoke on the ARRL Regional Convention progress. He requested people to register early, as there is a need for cash flow for the Convention planning stages.

Mike Anderson WV7T brought up the need for a second call sign for the club. We wouldn't lose WAØVTU, but it would be nice to have a shortie for contesting and other times. After discussion, Mike agreed to speak to Mike Stansberry, the trustee of the current club call sign, to get his input and ideas.

Kate KCØEGJ suggested the club find a company to donate a laptop or two for the treasurer and possibly secretary. This way, the treasurer's Quicken program is on its own computer, and the laptop can travel with each treasurer as that position changes hands. Rob Roller N7LV will pursue this idea.

Rick mentioned that we still need a Field Day chair and location, following Mike Stansberry's resignation from that committee. Rick also mentioned that we are looking for a Swapfest Chair or possibly co-chair for this year. Anyone interested in assisting the club in these positions should contact Rick Brown KØSU as soon as possible.

There being no further business, Bob KBØB moved to adjourn the meeting at 8 p.m. Jerry ADØA seconded. *Submitted by Kate Ellis KCØEGJ, in Mike Allen's absence.*

PPRAA Reminders ... Don't forget ...

- Christmas is coming up, and no one is planning a party yet! We need a Christmas party planner. Anyone volunteering for that? Either that or it's Christmas at McDonalds this year! Contact the president!
- Interested in organizing one of the best hamfests in the state? Bob KIØGF is stepping down as hamfest chairman, and we need someone to get us started again. Planning normally begins this month for next year's hamfest. Please don't wait to see if someone else is going to step forward! Do it now!
- Still looking for a club historian. It'd be great to see some of the old club paraphernalia on display at a club meeting! How 'bout it?
- Ben NØLNW took an order for Arrow J-pole antennas at a club meeting a couple of months ago. If you ordered, but haven't picked your antenna up, be sure to contact Ben to claim your radiator.
- And Mike Stansberry KØTER is looking for someone to organize and coordinate Field Day 2003. If you're interested in this position, please let Mike know.

Some Club History

By N7LV Rob Roller

10 Years Ago This Month:

Bob Witte KBØCY reports of his part in a ham radio rescue on Uncompahgre Peak, as he relayed details of a girl injured by a falling rock. A ham at home received the call and notified SAR, and a helicopter eventually evac'ed the patient.

Lunch Bunch at the Golden Palace, 1181 N Circle Dr.

20 Years Ago This Month:

A Novice ham class began on Sep 21. Got a nice "thank-you" letter from Bill KAØOQZ, thanking the club, and Dave NØDV and Don KBØKQ. Bill earned his Tech ticket through the club's ham class, taught by Dave and Don.

Ham Etc News Briefs

- Sixty meters may still become reality yet. After facing a surprise blocking by the NTIA, the ARRL is again working with the powers that be to help create this 5 MHz band. It may be a while yet for a final resolution.
- Things are getting off to a slow start on the Rocky Mountain Division convention, coming up next May/June 2003. Now is the time to get your reservations in to help keep the cash flow alive during these preparatory days. If you're planning on attending, why wait? Register now! Contact Jerry ADØA for details, or check the web site www.hamconcolorado.org.

ARRL Homeland Security ARECC Courses Begin

By N7LV Rob Roller

In a previous *Ø-Beat* we reported how the ARRL had received a grant related to homeland security, and part of that was to be used towards training hams in the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course (ARECC). Registration began on Oct 1 for the Level I EC-001 course. The class was reserved for up to 200 students who also hold ARRL field appointments, such as OES, OBS, ORS, etc. on a first come, first serve basis. This course will be free, paid for by the grant, for these students. (Students will pay initially, but will be reimbursed upon completion of the course.)

Public Service & Emergency Communications

The PPRAA is an ARRL Special Services Club, but it is not an emergency services club itself. The PPRAA supports all amateur radio involvement in public service and emergency communications in any way it can, including reporting activities happening in the region. These columns are based on available knowledge of the editor, and the opinions expressed are not necessarily the opinions of RACES, ARES, Skywarn or any other organization, or their leadership. Logos used with permission.

RACES



<http://www.qsl.net/epcraces/>

VHF Net Tuesdays at 1930 on the 146.76 MHz
CMRG repeater

Tony Dal Lago KC4VMB, RACES Officer

State RACES Officer Al Acker WA4HND attended the September training, after driving in all the way from Mesa County. Al is gearing up to get the State RACES organization back into shape. He'll be coordinating with all other RACES groups around the state. Read about what's happening at his web site www.coloradoraces.net. We also conducted an inventory of RACES equipment in the RACES offices this month. Plan on participating in an exercise on Oct 17. For details contact WØMCT to see how you can fit in. The RACES packet BBS is on the air on 144.93 MHz temporarily. It'll be permanently moved to 145.09 MHz later in October, once the final tweaks are made. Connect

to KCØMWQ or OEMBBS to log in. Finally, RACES celebrates its 50th anniversary this month. According to the web site www.races.org there may be several RACES groups around the country putting on special events to commemorate this event. Check around for frequencies. They may vary depending on the group.

ARES



<http://www.qsl.net/ppares/>

VHF Net Tuesdays at 1900 on the 146.97 MHz
PPFMA repeater

Wes Wilson KØHBZ, EC

September has been a fairly quiet month, with the exception of the phone outage in Woodland Park. This has happened more than once before, so hams in Teller County are getting familiar with the reponse. PPARES once again was called out primarily to support the various public safety agencies in the area, to include the Mountain Communities VFD in West Creek. Speaking of the MCVFD, the chief there, Scott Reeder, has sent a letter to Wes thanking all of PPARES for its support during the Hayman fire. Mike KØTER reports that the ARES Packetcluster is back on the air on 144.93 MHz. The cluster is basically a form of packet BBS for transferring messages, files, and for conferencing. Connect to ARES14 to access the cluster.

DX Contesting For October

By WV7T Mike Anderson

Oceania DX Contest

SSB - 0800z Oct. 5 through 0800z Oct. 6

CW - 0800z Oct. 12 through 0800z Oct. 13

www.nzart.org.nz/nzart/update/contests/oceania/

RSGB 21/28 MHz Contest

SSB - 0700z - 1900z Oct. 7

CW - 0700z - 1900z Oct. 20

www.rsgbhfcc.org

Worked All Germany

SSB/CW - 1500z Oct. 19 through 1459z Oct. 20

www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedcg.htm

Iberoamericano Contest

SSB - 2000z Oct. 12 through 2000z Oct. 13

www.ure.es (In Spanish)

JARTS WW RTTY Contest

0000z Oct. 19 through 2400z Oct. 20

www.edsoftz.com/JARTS/2002/rules2002.html

ASIA - Pacific Sprint

CW - 0000z-0200z Oct. 20

jsfc.org/apsprint

CQ Worldwide DX Contest

SSB - 0000z Oct.26 through 2400z Oct. 27

www.cq-amateur-radio.com/cqwwhome.html

ARRL International EME Contest

0000z Oct. 26 through 2400z Oct. 27

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10-10 International CW-Digital Contest

0001z Oct. 26 through 2400z Oct. 27

Aug. QST page 109

Great site for a list of upcoming contests.

WA7BNM Contest Calendar

www.hornucopia.com/contestcal

A great DX Spotting site.

oh2aq.kolumbus.com/dxs

What are Mike WV7T and Rhoda KB2BZY Up To These Days?

by WV7T Mike Anderson

An opportunity to visit Mike's folks in Arizona presented itself so they loaded up the car and went to Grand Canyon Caverns, AZ, and invited their good friend John Roth NØQJS to come along on the 1,912 mi trip. They left on Aug 29 and returned Sept 2.



Our first stop was at the Great Sand Dunes. "The World's Largest Litter Box!" Here John took the photo to prove they were there.



Next they stopped at Four Corners where 4 states meet at one point. John & Mike divided up the four states to dominate and rule!



Talk about your big hole in the ground. Meteor Crater beats them all. Here's Mike ...



... and "heeeeeerrre's Johnny"!



Here's John horsing around at the Grand Canyon Caverns motel. You need a whip, John (whip antenna, that is.)



The last stop was at the Petrified Forest. Rhoda KB2BZY is amazed at the trees turned to stone.

Challenger Learning Center Opens at Challenger Middle School

By N7LV Rob Roller

This really doesn't have anything to do with ham radio, but it's about space, and it's educational. And hams are interested in space and in education, and the ARRL and AMSAT are involved in space and education, so it sort of fits.

Anyway, on Sep 20, school district 20 opened a \$2M facility at Challenger Middle School called a Challenger Learning Center. The reason this caught my eye is because back in '98, when the PPRAA conducted its Mir contact with astronaut Andy Thomas from Prairie Hills Elementary, D-20 also was announcing that it was going to build this Learning Center, and needed to come up with \$1M, and it was to open up within 2 years. I had thought at the time that it would be cool to integrate ham radio into this center, but it's not practical, given its specific "mission".



Mission patch for the Challenger mission 51-L

Well, it took them almost five years to raise the money and get it built, but I think it was worth every penny. On Sept 20, after the brouhaha died down with all the celebrities and celebration, I stopped by for the open house they had, and got to see first-hand what the kids will go through.

Essentially the CLC is a giant simulator, one of about nearly fifty in the US. This is a space simulator without the weightlessness. The CLC is organized in three separate areas: a foyer/gift shop, where visitors first enter, a simulated space laboratory, and a simulated mission control center. Before entering, the group is split into two. One will go into space; the other will operate the mission control center. Part way through a mission, the kids trade places so they can experience both sides.

The kids destined for space, enter into a chamber which simulates lift-off. This room has airline-like seating, a large video screen to act as a viewport outside the space

shuttle, and a high-power sound system to give the rumble of a launch. After a short period in there, they enter an "air lock" to take them safely from the environment of the shuttle to the safety of the "orbiting space station".

Meanwhile, the other kids are getting settled in at mission control. Mission control is modeled quite realistically after the real mission control rooms. Rows of computer consoles, main displays up on the wall. Each station has checklists to help guide the kids through each mission, just like the real checklists.

Okay, to the missions. Each class that comes through the center will get to experience a 2 ½ hour space mission, complete with launch, experiments, and problems! One particular mission might be to launch a probe to investigate a comet that will come into range. The mission will be led by a mission commander, and have communications, navigation, and medical specialists, also scientists that can analyze the comet's composition. There are stations with elaborate maps, robotic arms for handling space samples, scales, etc.

The missions are tightly choreographed, with certain things planned to happen at certain times. Teachers begin their preparation for the CLC mission as early as 4 weeks prior, by taking their students to a CLC-provided lesson plan, and by gearing their classes towards what they'll learn in the CLC. Just prior to the mission, teachers spend a day at the CLC learning what to expect during the mission. When the mission finally arrives, the kids participate in both sides of the CLC and learn to react to each event; basically they must solve their own problems. Teachers and staff are not allowed to help the students in any way, except to maybe prompt them to re-read the checklists to find out exactly what to do. And these checklists are very detailed, with only one or two instructions per sheet so as not to confuse the kids. But it's up to the kids to actual make or break the mission.

The entire program, software, checklists, training material, and support comes from the Challenger headquarters in Virginia. It's quite a place! If you get a chance, drop by. They do have a gift shop, and you can view the mission control room from behind glass windows while a mission is in progress.

Pop Music Star May Still Get Into Space

By N7LV Rob Roller

On another space-related matter, we've been hearing about all of these space tourists lately. First there was Dennis Tito of the US, then Mark Shuttleworth of South Africa. The latest space tourist, for which money is apparently no object, is a singer with the teen rock group NSYNC. However, he's been in an on-again, off-again

relationship with the Russian space agency for training. First on, then off, now on again. During all of this preparation, Bass also earned a technician class license, KG4UYY. Part of the plan is for him to make some ARISS contacts from space. If he finally gets up there, he'll not only be the youngest ham to venture into outer space, but also the youngest astronaut ever. If the media would ever mention it more that he did get a ham license so he could talk to people on Earth from space, this might also be a great way to get more younger people into amateur radio. So far all of the space tourists, have earned a ham license, so have had the opportunity to talk with hams and/or students at schools, via the ARRL ARISS program. Problem is, I rarely hear about his ham license unless it's being mentioned in an ARRL newsletter.

Colorado Connection News

By WBØQMR Paul Shackelford

09/21/02

The last month has been full of activity here at The Connection. John N5EHP, Dave KAØYDW, Bill KBØNWM and Dave NØPEO went down to Wolf Creek Pass and installed a new commercial grade 20 foot [tall] fiberglass repeater antenna built for the amateur band. This will make the Pagosa/Wolf Creek 145.310 repeater have much better coverage and give us our much needed relay point into Durango. It is now not just a link but a *full repeater* and covers a very wide area. That is a very long trip from the Front Range and we thank you guys for your dedication & hard work.

John N5EHP and Dave KAØYDW also went to the Salida repeater and tuned it up as well as reconfiguring the link.

Last weekend a group consisting of: Dale Durham KCØJTF, Will Marsh and Steve Cavender NØFMD of The Rocky Mountain Binders 4 Wheel Drive Club and Dan Hupp NØTZL, Jeff Gerst NØXDW, Dave Andrews KAØYDW, Hank Huerman WA4CCC, Daniel working on license, Barry Wilson KAØBBQ and John Thomson N5EHP went to the Leadville repeater. They delivered and installed new batteries at our 100% solar powered site. They also did the really hard work of removing and hauling to recycle the 300 pound batteries that were up there for many years and were failing. This all was quite a task at 13,000 feet above sea level. Also those that provided the vehicles to haul the batteries were greatly appreciated. Thanks for all the hard work and vehicles guys!

The Connection is getting quite a bit more use this month and it is great to hear. This keeps us up on how the system is working and demonstrates its capabilities. There are many hunters from out of state and from Colorado whom are hams and will be using the system in the next month. They use The Connection to stay in touch with home from camp and for emergency communications. Please keep an ear open for them just in case they need help or information that you may be able to offer. In many situations The Connection is the only means of communication they have.

We will have a table at the BARCFest hamfest in Longmont on the 29th of [Sept] and hope to see you. Come by and chat and let us know what we can do to make YOUR Connection even better.

On your trips to the mountains in the next few weeks have fun using the many Connection mountain repeaters. They are all working really well and should be a great way to stay in touch.

73 from The Colorado Connection Board Of Directors

Colorado Repeater Association

By N7LV Rob Roller

One of the other repeater organizations serving Colorado Springs is the Colorado Repeater Association. It's probably not as well known because it's a Denver club, but there are a handful of COS hams that use and support this club. I used it quite often when I lived in Boulder years ago. The CRA has a repeater here in COS atop Cheyenne Mountain on 145.16 MHz, standard negative offset, and a tone of 107.2 Hz. (The tone is relatively new, so if you're used to using their system with an open carrier squelch and can't figure out why you can't get in, add the tone.)

The CRA was formed in 1981 and operates repeaters on 6m, 2m, 220 MHz, 440 MHz and 1.2 GHz on various mountaintop sites along the Front Range. The most well-known is the 147.225(+) repeater serving Denver. The 145.16 COS machine is linked continuously to Denver, so if you are traveling up to Denver and want to stay in touch with folks in COS, you can use the CRA system. The six-meter repeater is on 53.050 MHz, with a standard 1 MHz negative offset, and the same tone.

Although I haven't listened for it in a while, the CRA used to (and may still) broadcast live shuttle audio when a space shuttle mission is going on. It's

been interesting to listen to that while driving around town running errands.

Another service they do for hams in the area is to provide a weekly swap list. If you have something for sale or if you need something, you can publish that info on their weekly swap net, which is read each Sunday morning. Or you can subscribe on to their e-mail reflector for, which is a Yahoo groups list called CRASwaplist.

One other thing that's nice about the CRA system is the variety of on-the-air nets. We have a few down here that we're used to (e.g., SCTN), but if you want variety, you really gotta listen to the CRA. Practically every single night there are nets on their system. Here's a list of what's currently showing on the CRA web page:

Net	Time	Topic
CRA Info Net	0900/Sunday	General info, AR Newline, swap net
Six Meter Invitational	1000/Sunday 1900/Tuesday	Meet w/local 6m enthusiasts
APRS Net	1900/Sunday	General APRS Info
Rocky Mountain Monitoring Net	2000/Sunday	Scanner enthusiasts
Mile Hi DX Association	1900/Monday	DX
Colorado QRP Club Info	2000/Monday	QRP info
EOSS Net	2000/Tuesday	EOSS launches, etc
AMSAT Net	2000/Wednesday	Space topics
ARES D-24 Net	2000/Thursday	ARES in Douglas & Elbert Cos.
Morse Code Practice net	2100/Thursday	Practice CW

New Digital Scanner Coming Out

By N7LV Rob Roller

Not too long ago, various frequencies fell silent in and around Colorado Springs. No longer could we monitor traffic from police, fire and other public safety agencies, as the gov't agencies switched to a new and presumably better 800 MHz system. Whether it's been better for the city and county is up for debate, but it's definitely NOT been better to the casual scanner enthusiast. Things may be about to change.



For those of you that have been monitoring the scanner world you know that Uniden announced back in January that they have developed an APCO-25 compatible digital scanner, that should be capable of decoding the digital trunked systems. The desktop BC-250D, and the handheld BC-785D, will offer 1,100 memories, but it won't do any digital decoding without the optional (and expensive) BCi25D card. These radios should hit the market in November. What's not totally clear is whether or not these scanners will work with the local digital systems. I still have a lot to learn, but there's more than one type of digital system, and from what I can gather, these new scanners might not work with all of them. So I can't say without a doubt that they will work in receiving the COS system. I'm sure we'll hear more as time goes on.

Keep in mind also that the BCi25D card is only for decoding the digital signals, but not for decrypting any encrypted communications. Fortunately, from what I know at the moment, the local gov'ts do not encrypt their transmissions, although this is an option if the gov't wanted to spend the extra bucks. The most likely candidates for encrypted comm would be on teams like SWAT, narcotics, or other undercover operations.

Price? You want price? Plan on spending around \$700 for this one, with the magic decoding card.

(APCO stands for *Association of Public Safety Communications Officials*, which is an organization that monitors and advocates for practically everything that is in the best interest of public safety communications officials, kind of like the ARRL is to ham radio.)

DON'T FORGET THE CHANGE OF MEETING LOCATION. WE'RE NOW MEETING AT THE LEON YOUNG SERVICE CENTER AT 1521 HANCOCK EXPRESSWAY!

Pikes Peak Region Ham Radio Event Calendar

October / November 2002 -- Please see Page 2 for Points of Contact

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5 CCARC Mtg in Woodland Park
6	7	8	9 PPRAA Mtg Elections	10	11 Lunch Bunch	12 PPRAA VE Test
13	14 PPRAA Board Mtg	15	16 MARC Mtg	17 EPCRACES Mtg	18	19 RMRL Hamfest JOTA
20 JOTA	21	22	23	24	25	26 CMRG Annual Mtg
27	28 ZB Deadline	29	30	31	1	2 MARC VE Testing
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 Hamfest Planning Meeting
10	11	12	13 PPRAA Mtg	14	15 Lunch Bunch	16
17	18 PPRAA Board Mtg	19	20 MARC Mtg	21 EPCRACES Mtg	22	23
24	25 ZB Deadline	26	27	28 Thanksgiving	29	30

Questions about any event on this calendar? Something missing? Try our web page, or contact a Board Member!

Membership Application for the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc. P.O. Box 16521, Colorado Springs, CO 80935-6521			
Date: _____	New Member	Renewal	In which activities would you like to participate?
Name: _____			Field Day
Address: _____			Demonstrations
			Nets or round tables
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____			Organize activities
			Teach ham classes
Call: _____ Class: N T + G A E	Phone: _____		Full Member \$15:
			Family Membership \$18:
Mbr of ARRL? Yes No	E-mail: _____		Over 65 \$10:
			Over 65 Family \$12:
Additional Family Members to Join/Renew:			Associate \$12:
			Ø-Beat Only \$12:
Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____			Donation to Club: \$ _____
Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____			Total Enclosed: _____
Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____			<u>MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO "PPRAA"</u>
Please indicate how you'd like your Ø-Beat delivered: (Defaults to standard hard copy in the event that NO check boxes are checked)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Standard hardcopy via U.S. Mail <input type="checkbox"/> As a PDF file attachment via e-mail, to help save a few bucks <input type="checkbox"/> I'll save the club a few bucks and download it from the Web!			
Circle your interests HF / V/UHF / FM / SSB / Digital / DX / Contests / Technical / Hardware / Other _____			
New and renewing members must submit a completed application form along with your check to the Treasurer. Please Type or Print Clearly!			

ALL NEW MEMBERSHIPS AND RENEWALS WILL BE PRORATED TO EXPIRE IN DECEMBER!!

RadioActivities!

Lunch Bunch



The next **Lunch Bunch** is October 11 at the Country Buffet in the Citadel Crossing Mall, corner of Galley & Academy, 1130-1300. (*Always the **Friday** following the club meeting.*) Call Moe WBØRTF with any

questions!!

Hamfest Horizon & More

Oct 19: Rocky Mountain Radio League hamfest, Jefferson Co. Fairgrounds, Golden, 0800-1400. \$5 admission. Talk-in 145.22 MHz. VE testing, prizes, food. POC Ron Rose NØMQJ (303) 985-8692 n0mqj@attbi.com. <http://rmrl.hamradios.com/>

May 30 – Jun 1, 2003: Rocky Mountain Division Convention (HamCon), Estes Park. Visit the web site at <http://www.hamconcolorado.org> Contact Jerry VerDuft ADØA, 719-634-8066, ad0a@arrl.net.

Dits & Bits

For Sale: 40 ft Rohn tower (in four 10-ft sections) with base plate. \$200. Ham-M rotor. \$75. William Petty NØNJX, 533-7461.

For Sale: CDE AR-22 rotator. Works fine, includes control box and 3 spares. \$85. Bruce KGØLH, 636-3865 evenings.

Jess Miley

KØTAA

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